

Many of you know, I oppose drilling, seeking to protect the Alaskan Refuge. While my “Green Republican” allies and I kept Refuge drilling provisions off the Deficit Reduction Act, Congressional leaders and Congressman Murtha (D-PA) attached oil drilling language to the final appropriations bill. I voted against this bill and so did 16 of my Republican allies. Unfortunately, over 100 Democratic members joined other Republicans to authorize drilling in the Wildlife Refuge. The bill also included new provisions allowing school vouchers for religious schools in the Gulf coast. [Read my floor statement outlining why I opposed the bill.](#)